as affleant
Paul a moyer

APR 15 1957

Conneautville, Pa.
April 13, 1957

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
Board of Natl. Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

Your letter last week was most welcome. We have been anxious for news from you about the Alaskan scene.

Both suggestions that you made —i.e. Tok Junction, or a village in the Southeastern Alaska sounded interesting. I vaguely remember the area of Tok Junction, as we travelled through it. I remember quite vividly most of the villages of the Pan-handle. And we did get to see most of them a few years back by way of the Princeton Hall. I would be interested in talking with you in more detail about these suggestions.

I would have no suggestions as to your approach to Mary Ellen at Maryville. She needs no convincing, and is quite excited over the possibility of work in Alaska. I would hope that you would have time to describe in some detail the specific work and challenge involved in these fields.

Did visited her in maryville 4/15/57

You suggested that I state my particular interests as to type of work. I find this difficult to do in a general way, without knowing the detail of the field that is open. One of my special interestes in Erie Presbytery has been the Youth Work, with a great deal of time spent on the Camping program. Any possibility of work in relation to Haines Camp, would, I believe, tend to swing my decision in that direction.

If you should chance to be near the area here, I would be glad for the opportunity to talk with you about these matters. I expect to be attending General Assembly this year as a Commissioner. If you should be there, perhaps we would have an opportunity to talk. But perhaps that would be too late, with your goal of the end of April in mind.

I await further word and suggestions from you.

Thank you for your helpfulness!

Sincerely yours,

Paul

Paul A. Moyer

May 1, 1957

The Rev. Paul A. Moyer
Conneautville, Pa.

Dear Paul:

I had a very nice visit with Mary Ellen at Maryville and certainly approve of your selection of a wife. She is enthusiastic about going to Alaska with you, and there was no need to do any convincing on that line. We talked rather briefly about each one of the fields where there was an opening and she expressed her willingness to go with you in the Lord's work wherever there seemed to be a call on the field.

Our personnel needs and locations seem to be taking form now, so that we can give you some rather definite word about it. We have had an application from a man in Tennessee who seems best fitted to take over the work on the Alaska Highway which is now being done by Ed Diehl. There was some question whether Bill Wartes would continue at Barrow, and we were holding you as a possibility for that field because of your pilot's license. A reexamination of the situation at Barrow seems to indicate that the Wartes family should stay there for at least another year, and what we need there is a student intern rather than another married, ordained minister. We also need an ordained man who would work on the radar sites along the Distant Early Warning Line, but for the most effective contact with the field he ought to live on the base, which means he should be single; or, if married, he would have very infrequent contact with his wife and/or family. We are seeking a single man for this work.

The one remaining field which needs to be covered is Hydaburg in southeastern Alaska. You told me over the telephone that you had visited this community. Dick and Barbara Stussi have been there, but Barbara has had to go into Juneau for medical care resulting from the removal of an eye where the tissue did not heal. This was supposed to be a temporary move, but we lost one of the members of the crew of the Princeton-Hall. We are using two boats this summer and the Nelson family will be having a furlough in the fall, so that we will need Dick Stussi there through the rest of this calendar year. Dick spent two summers in Alaska

as a student with the idea of carrying on a boat ministry, and now he and Barbara have expressed their preference to remain in that situation. If their location in Juneau had remained completely temporary, we had planned for a seminary student and his wife to cover Hydaburg during the summer until they could get back. However, now that we will need them in Juneau for the rest of the year, it seems wise to make a permanent appointment in Hydaburg, which could take effect as soon after the first of June as you might be ready to take it.

Hydaburg is the only village of Haida Indians in Alaska. There are problems of their ancient culture and their understanding of the real meaning of the Christian message and way of life, but they have been assuming a gradual greater responsibility. There is a large amount of rainfall there, but not very low temperatures. There is a comfortable manse and a relatively new church, which is fairly adequate for the program. If you are willing to accept this appointment, I shall forward your papers to the chairmen of the committees involved there, with the recommendation that you be appointed.

You may want to discuss this more thoroughly . I shall be in the office the week of May 6th, and would suggest that you come in either Monday or Tuesday, if convenient, for further conference. We will be responsible for your travel expenses. We trust that our consideration of this is within the providence of God for your life and ministry and for the best work on the field.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

JEJ:lt

Moyer

May 27, 1957

The Rev. Paul Moyer
R. D.
Conneautville, Pa.

Dear Paul:

We have received a telegram from Brian Cleworth stating that he, Paul Moser, Chairman of the National Missions Committee, and William Gavin, Chairman of the Ministerial Relations Committee of Alaska Presbytery, have examined and approved your papers, so that everything is clear now for us to go ahead and appoint you as the missionary-pastor of the Hydaburg Church. We shall complete your appointment letter as soon as possible, and make arrangements for your transportation.

I take it for granted from a copy of a letter from Warne Clark to you, that you are planning to drive to Seattle and sell your car there. When everything is settled, we should have a word on your dates for going to Alaska, so that proper reservations can be made for you out of Seattle. Some more of your questions were answered at Omaha and you may have others later. We hope we can clear them all to the satisfaction of you and the future Mrs. Moyer.

Cordially,

J. Earl Jackman

JEJ:lt

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N.Y. ALGONQUIN 5-5000

June 3, 1957

The Rev. Paul A. Moyer
Conneautville, Pa.

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your letter of May 29th with some more definite information about your plans to go north. We must begin now to clear up many of the things which will be necessary in preparation for your departure.

Since you are ordained and serving a church, we take it for granted that you are a member of the pension plan.

Our program in Alaska calls for a physical examination for husband and wife both, which includes chest x-rays. We are enclosing the forms for the medical examination, for which the Board will reimburse you or pay your attending your physician. We do not want the x-ray pictures, but do want a report from the physician on them.

Before our Treasury Department can pay any salary, it is necessary for us to have completed income tax forms which indicate whether a man is ordained, and another one indicating the number of his dependents. We are enclosing these forms. Since you are already ordained, we are not required to withhold income tax. Therefore you can return this one form to us now, which we will file with our Treasury Department. Following your marriage, you should complete the other one indicating marriage and the number of dependents and forward it to us also.

We can and will arrange for you to have a travel allowance in advance. You should give us some suggestion as to how much you would like to have. If the amount drawn is not enough for the total bills, we can reimburse you for the difference later, or, if it is more than you will need, you can make a refund to us after you arrive on the field. The air coach fare for two people from Pittsburgh to Seattle amounts to $209 including the tax. You may charge us this rate and use this money for your transportation and living costs between home and Seattle if you desire to drive. We will arrange to have our travel agent in Seattle make your reservations from Seattle to Hydaburg on July 15th and mail the tickets to you. This means that you should keep us informed about your mailing addresses. The

travel agent will bill our office and we will take care of them for you from here.

We are asking Vagabond Cruises and Travel Service to make reservations for you on Pan American Airways leaving Seattle Monday morning July 15th. You will have 66 pounds each free baggage allowance. At Annette Field you will leave Pan American and be flown by Ellis Airlines from Annette to Ketchikan. In all probability you can leave Ketchikan the same afternoon and go on to Hydaburg. We would suggest, however, that you remain over one day in Ketchikan to get acquainted with the town and the Paul Mosers who are serving there. You may be ordering meats or fresh vegetables from Ketchikan by mail to be flown over to you, and it would be a good thing for you to learn something about the stores there in advance. We would suggest that you write to the Rev. Richard Stussi, Box 2539, Juneau, Alaska, asking Dick or Barbara to give you some guidance on connections in Ketchikan. We have a provision that our missionary-pastors in southeastern Alaska may order up to $400 worth of groceries and staple goods out of Seattle in carton lots, but you will want to buy some of your things in Hydaburg and you may find it necessary to order fresh meat and fresh vegetables directly from Ketchikan.

Any freight shipment you have should be directed to Warne Clark in Seattle, with whom you already have made a contact about your car. It may be possible that he can arrange to have your goods shipped directly from Seattle to Hydaburg. If this is not arranged in advanced, then any shipment will have to be transshipped at Ketchikan and go over by the weekly mail boat, which will take a much longer period and increase the cost by fifty per cent at least.

Many of our missionary-pastors in Alaska have health and accident insurance with Ministers Life and Casualty Union. There have been a few cases in which we have had to intercede with them in behalf of our people, but generally speaking their service has been reliable.

One other thing about your flight reservation on July 15th - we can go ahead and have Mr. White make the reservation from Annette to Ketchikan to Hydaburg on the 15th, and if you want to stay over in Ketchikan for a day or two, you can easily change the reservation. However, if you think well of the idea, let me know at once and we shall ask Mr. White to make it from Ketchikan to Hydaburg on the 16th or 17th.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

JEJ:lt

Enc. Tax Report Forms
2 sets health examination report forms

X Copy JES.

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N.Y. ALGONQUIN 5-5000

June 3, 1957

The Rev. Paul A. Moyer
Connoautville, Pa.

Dear Mr. Moyer:

As Secretary of the Department of Work in Alaska under which you will be serving, it gives me pleasure to notify you of your appointment as a missionary-pastor under the Board of National Missions in the Territory of Alaska, and to welcome you to the fellowship of the national missionaries of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. The appointment is made under the current provisions of the Conditions of Service in Alaska which are attached, and will begin July 1, 1957. You should proceed to the field of service as soon thereafter as possible.

You are being assigned to the Presbyterian Church of Hydaburg, Alaska. Your papers have been reviewed by the Rev. William Cavin, Chairman of the Committee on Ministerial Relations, the Rev. Paul Moser, Chairman of the Committee on National Missions, and the Rev. Brian H. Cleworth, Assistant Secretary of the Department of Work in Alaska, and you have been approved by all of them for appointment. You will carry a full pastoral, preaching and service program in the church and community as the missionary-pastor, with the status in the Presbytery of stated supply. Arrangements will be made by the proper committee for a service of introduction to the congregation.

You should transfer your Presbytery membership to the Presbytery of Alaska, and plan to participate in the work of this Presbytery. The standing rules of the Presbytery recognize you as the moderator of the session of the church upon receipt of your Presbytery membership in the hands of the Stated Clerk. This will be confirmed at the following meeting of the Presbytery. Beyond your membership in the Presbytery, you will be related directly to the Board of National Missions through the Department of Work in Alaska for appointment, conditions of service, salary and administrative arrangements, and to the Assistant Secretary of the Department of Work in Alaska, living in Alaska, for program on the field. During the first week of each month, you will make out a monthly report in quadruplicate which will contain the statistics and narrative covering your work of the preceding month, and a voucher to be signed in ink which calls for the Board's portion of your salary for the month in which the report is completed. The original, typed or in ink, shall be sent airmail to the Department of Work in Alaska; the first copy shall be sent to the Assistant Secretary in Alaska; the second copy to the Chairman of the National Missions Committee; and you shall retain the third copy for your own records.

Your salary will begin at the rate of $3600 a year, plus $600 adjustment for service in southeastern Alaska, plus manse furnished with heavy pieces of furniture, the employer's portion of the pension premiums and one month's vacation after eleven months of service. The employees of the Board are required to be members of the pension plan of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. A portion of your salary will come from the church and people whom you will serve, and the balance from the Board. There will be manse credit on salary from both sources. The Board will pay the employer's portion of your pension dues, will deduct three per cent from your salary for your dues, and will pay all of this directly to the Board of Pensions on that part of your salary which comes from the Board. Your local church will follow the same plan on that part of the salary which it pays. The Board's portion of the salary will begin on the date of the appointment, and the church's at the beginning of your service on the field. The amount from the church shall represent the ability of the people to pay and, if possible, be increased each year. Salaries are reviewed annually and adjustments made in accordance with prevailing conditions and the financial resources of the church and the Board.

Vacations shall be taken at a time when they will least interfere with the work of the church, and appropriate provision shall be made to continue the services in the church.

We are writing this letter in duplicate so that each of us may have a copy. Sign both copies. Keep the original and return the copy to us to indicate your acceptance of this appointment and the terms as stated. Our copy becomes a part of your personnel record.

We appoint you as an ambassador of Christ under the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. We trust that you will present Him through the witness of your life and ministry to the people whom you will serve and call upon them to follow Him. We ask of you a ministry dedicated to the extension of the Gospel of Christ in all its fullness and His service in all its implications, in accordance with Presbyterian beliefs and program. In return, we promise to do our utmost to sustain you in this ministry. While your wife does not have a separate employment relationship to the Board, we recognize that she is a part of and will share in your ministry. We think of both of you as giving your lives for Christ and the people among whom you will serve. This appointment letter records our mutual pledge in the Master's service.

Sincerely yours,

_____ _____

Date J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

_____ _____

Date The Rev. Paul A. Moyer

JEJ:lt
Cc.: The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth
Enc.: Conditions of Service, Our Alaskan Ministry, 1957 Wallet Card.

JUL 9 1959

Hydaburg, Alaska
July 6, 1959

Dr. J. Earl Jackman,
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

I have been checking on the matter of shingles for the new roof that has been approved for our manse in Hydaburg; and I find that our best deal is out of Seattle.

As I talked recently with Dick Nelson, he suggested that there was a possibility of the Anna Jackman making a trip to Seattle in August for repairs. He assured me that if they did go, there would be possible space on the boat to bring the shingles back. But he suggested that I clear the matter with you.

I would appreciate immediate word from you whether or not the boat is scheduled for a trip to Seattle....and whether there might be other freight booked that would take precedence over an order of shingles. You might clear this matter with Dick also.

Another matter of concern at the moment is the condition of our treasury in the Hydaburg Church. Finances have been very low here for the past several months; and our Church treasury is scraping bottom. Would it be possible for the Board to pay the Church's share of my salary for the month of July? They are still behind for part of June's salary. In talking with the Treasurer, he felt that if the Board could take care of July's salary, it would permit the treausry to catch up to take care of August and September. That is your policy on this situation?

We will be going out to Pennsylvania either the last week of July or August 1....depending upon when Mr. Evans arrives here.

I can be reached in Penna. at the following address:

c/o Albert K. Moyer, Walnut, Pennsylvania.

Many thanks for your helpfulness!

Sincerely yours,

Paul

Paul A. Moyer

7/24/59 ltr to Treas

NOV 4 1959

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS -- SPEAKER'S REPORT SHEET

Date	Synod	Presbytery	City, State	Name of Church	Were slides or movies * used by speaker? Title	Type of fields covered in address	Number Present	What group in church was reached
Aug 30	Penna	Beaver Valley	Hadley	Presby	Sermon	Rural Parish	80	Congregation
"	"	"	Fairfield	Presby	Sermon	Rural Parish	30	Congregation
Aug 2	"	Carlisle	Academia	Lower Tuscarora	Sermon	Rural Parish	135	Congregation
Aug 9	"	Erie	Clintonville	Presby	Slides on Alaska	Rural	195	Congregation
Aug 10	"	Erie	Amity	Presby	Slides	Interdenominational Youth	125	Youth
Sept 6	"	Erie	Oil City	Second	Sermon (Radio Broadcast)	City	235	Congregation
Sept 10	"	Erie	Cochranton	Presby	Slides	Small Town	60	Women
Sept 13	"	Carlisle	Camp Hill	Christ Church	Sermon	City	210	Congregation
"	"	"	Camp Hill	Christ Church	Slides	City	35	Youth
Sept 16	"	Erie	Utica	Presby	Slides	Rural	95	Congregation
Sept 17	"	Pittsburgh	Pgh.	Beechview	Slides	City	110	Congregation
Sept 20	"	Erie	Dubois	First	Sermon (two A.M. Services)	City	275	Congregation
Sept 20	"	Huntingdon	Bellefonte	First	Slides	City	150	Congregation

(*) If a radio and or tv appearance was included in your itineration, please give city and station call letters and approximate length of time on air.

Name of Speaker Paul C. Moyer

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS -- SPEAKER'S REPORT SHEET

Date	Synod	Presbytery	City, State	Name of Church	Were slides or movies * used by speaker? Title	Type of fields covered in address	Number Present	What group in church was reached
Sept 21	Penna	Beaver Valley	Greenville	First	Slides	City	65	Women
Sept 23	Penna	Philadelphia	Philadelphia	Clivedon	Slides	City	95	Congregation
Sept 24	Penna	Beaver Valley	Greenville	First	Slides	City	45	Men

(*) If a radio and or tv appearance was included in your itineration, please give city and station call letters and approximate length of time on air.

Name of Speaker Paul A. Moyer

Haydaburg, Alaska.

NEW YORK, N.Y.
NOV 5
P.M.
1959

U.S. POSTAGE
4¢
U.S. SAVINGS BONDS

AIR MAIL-POSTAL CARD

The Rev. Paul A. Moyer
Box 156
Hydaburg
Alaska

S. O. S. 11/5/59

Re; Hydaburg

Your annual narrative report was due in our office on October first per the July 1959 Alaska News Letter. Please SEND IT IN IMMEDIATELY. We cannot complete our part until all reports for the year are in - WE NEED YOURS!

Dept. of Work in Alaska
Room 1117
475 Riverside Drive
New York 27, N. Y.

P. S. REMEMBER: The statistical report isdue in our office December 1st. Forms sent you October 15th.

NOV 16 1959

Presbyterian Church
Hydaburg, Alaska
November 10, 1959

Dept. of Work in Alaska
Room 1117
475 Riverside Drive
New York 27, N. Y.

Dear Sirs:

1959 annual rec'd 11/16/59

The report requested on the enclosed card was sent a few days ago.

But receiving this card has spurred me to take a count of all reports sent to the Board within the past year; and the summary is as follows:

21 reports sent...involving 142 pages of material
(i.e. including carbon copies.)

Isn't this a wee bit ridiculous!

This last report seems especially unnecessary, since a narrative report is included each month.

I wonder how many reports Christ required of his disciples?

Sincerely yours,

Paul A. Moyer

Paul A. Moyer

Hydaburg, Alaska
November 17, 1959

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
475 Riverside Drive
New York 27, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

Was sorry to miss you at Presbytery, for there were some items that I wanted to talk to you about. Weather has severely hampered our plane service out here this Fall; and we miss them when they don't come in.

My principle item of concern is Hydaburg finances. Our Church finances in Hydaburg are a continual problem to me, because of the uncertain and artificial condition of the Village financial structure. When I used 'uncertain,' I refer to their complete dependence upon the fishing season. And when I describe the condition as 'artificial,' I refer to the Government welfare program, which they eagerly depend upon. All of this you well know.

And both of these items offer excuse and poor example for the Native in his Christian Stewardship. He thinks that the Board of National Missions is rich like Uncle Sam, and thus should take care of the local Church. This dependence upon others is a dangerous blight upon one's spirit. I had read this before in books, but I never realized its full implication.

My particular problem is to know how hard to push them, realizing that many of them are pinching pennies very closely. And then the fact that most of what they give to the local Church goes to pay my salary is cause for question in their mind, especially when they know I am on regular salary...and many of them are on welfare checks. You see all of the implications involved.

11/23/59 Loss is 160. Shall we deduct this for Sept?

Thus my particular problem is that they have missed another month on my salary. You remember that the Board has already taken on the Church's share of my salary for one month this past Summer (~~June or~~ July). And now they have been unable to meet September payment. If the Board can help them catch up on that past month, I believe they will be able to continue on the present basis through the Winter. The Pension is paid in full to end of 1959.

The second question on finances is about next year's support. They can't possibly think of giving more in 1960. The fishing season this past Fall has been bad. And at the present time there are 35 less people in the Village than last year at this time. A present count lists about 215 population here.

1960 budget

Church 1920.
Rd. 3280.
5200.

There no doubt will be a strong sentiment that they ought to give less toward their support of the Pastor's Salary, in light of the above circumstances.

1960 budget

What do you recommend? Is it better to aim for the same goal, with the Board picking up the payments when they can't meet them? Or is it better to cut the goal to a realistic figure that they can attain? My own feeling is to try to hold the present level.

And just a word about the Canvass: Again they have refused to have anything to do with pledge cards. But I have devoted three Sundays to Stewardship, and was rather severe on some points about their local thinking on money. The first Sunday I preached on Gambling, and compared some figures about their gambling vs. Church giving. The second Sunday we used the film, "Second Chance." The third Sunday I preached on "WHAT IS MINE?"...i.e their use of their money. There have been some reactions; but at least I know they are thinking about it.

This is a matter I would much rather have talked over with you. But a letter seems second best. I hope you catch a glimpse of the picture that is puzzling me.

2

Another question entirely different: What would be the best for my wife and myself to join your Alaska Seminary this next Summer for just the Interior Section? If finances allow it, we would like very much to take part of our vacation time to see some other parts of Alaska.

All goes well with our family. The baby has been well, and is a hardy chap. We are enjoying our first snow at the moment. But it appears as though the rains will soon melt it.

Many thanks for your helpfulness in these matters.

Mrs Kwango.

Sincerely yours,

Paul

Paul A. Moyer

November 25, 1959

The Rev. Paul A. Moyer
Hydaburg,
Alaska

Dear Paul:

Last Sunday I preached in the Dormont Church of Pittsburgh, and had dinner in the home of Mrs. Marie Swango. Mrs. Swango said that she had had a visit with you in her home while you were down for your vacation. Also at the dinner was a Mr. Moyer who is an Elder in the Dormont Church.

We have your two letters which need attention. In the first one we, too, recognize the amount of paper work involved in our reports between the field and National Missions. Many things can be said about these which would include the evidence of a concern and interest in what is going on each field in order to give help to the people who are involved in this mission, the desire of our Office of Press and Publicity to tell the story of the accomplishments on the field to our members and constituency in the whole church, and a provision of a basis of report on the stewardship of our giving to the general mission of the church that we may know what is being accomplished. Beyond all of that, the statistical report is needed for the Annual Report of the Board. If the monthly reports are completed conscientiously, these figures could be compiled from the monthly reports. In order to do this in our office would require the services of another girl. This was presented to the meeting of the employees of the Board at a meeting in connection with Presbytery, and the men there agreed to do this themselves if we would supply the forms in order to cut down on the load of work in the office. On the Annual Narrative, the request is made for a different purpose. The narrative each month gives the month to month happenings on the field, but the Annual Narrative is supposed to be "the long look" at the work in the church, the community, and the developments and trends which are happening in that particular community in relation to all of Alaska for the year. All of these have their place and purpose. As a result of them, our Publicity Office here, the staff and the church at large have more intimate knowledge of the work in Alaska than that of any other department.

On the matter of support from the local church, we have, over the years, been urging the local congregations to take an increasing part in order that they might come nearer to self-support for their own work. We recognize that the economic situation in the native villages make it rather difficult to increase every year or even always to keep up a high level. Naturally, when there is a poor fishing season, the ability of the people is lessened. We have been encouraging our people to take an increased responsibility for the service from which they benefit. If they are unable to advance or even keep up their present level, we are willing to examine the whole situation, ask them to do less for that particular year and have National Missions do more. Our danger at this point is that they will not resume the higher level when things are better.

We would urge you to present the privilege of stewardship to your people, and urge them to give proportionately. If they have made a conscientious effort to give proportionately and cannot meet their pledge, we are willing to share it with them. If they cannot meet all of the months this fall, we will take one to help out. Meanwhile, we would suggest that you try to hold the present level for next year, but if that is too large, then drop back to $1,800.

We are not having a Traveling Seminar in 1960, but will have another one during the summer of 1961. Those who go from Seattle are asked to pay an extra $175 for the section (the second section) which goes from Juneau to Fairbanks. This includes transportation, housing and meals. However, tickets purchased from Seattle to Fairbanks make the trip from Juneau to Fairbanks less than the regular local fare from Juneau to Fairbanks. The actual cost would be in the neighborhood of $200 each. The third section, Fairbanks to Barrow to Kotzebue to Nome to Fairbanks, is an additional $175. A few people usually take only the first section so that we usually can pick up extra ones from Juneau to Fairbanks.

Best regards to all of you and blessings upon you in your important ministry in Hydaburg.

Cordially,

JEJ/csb
cc: The Rev. Wm. M. Pritchard

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

FEB 2 1960

Resignation
in fall 1960

Paul Moyer

Hydaburg, Alaska
January 28, 1960

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
475 Riverside Drive
New York 27, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

It is with a heavy heart that I write this letter, but also with the firm conviction that we must not spend another Winter in Hydaburg. This is a decision not easily reached, but with much trial of spirit and prayer.

By letter it is difficult to outline the steps that have brought us to this point. But the decision is a mutual agreement with Mary Ellen and myself.

Needless to say, Mary Ellen has suffered the most. It was not easy for her to leave the frills of College life and break the home ties at the same time, to come to this! She knew something of what she would face and has been brave thru all of the trials of Hydaburg. I believe she has been more noble than many a wife in facing the same situation. Her greatest burden has been loneliness, with absolutely no one in the Village with whom she could share a companionable visit. This in addition to the narrow space to which we are limited in the Village proper has been a depressing circumstance through the continuous rainy days. When it depresses the Native mind, it is understandable what it must do to a person not reared in these circumstances.

Until now I have encouraged her in every way I knew. Though I did not admit it to her, these same things that bothered her were also a weight upon my mind. But being a man I could find release in hunting trips, cutting wood, and the like. But this is rugged country for a woman to share in that type of thing. But now in the dullness of this our third Winter I find myself caught up in the same futility and despair that has been a trial to Mary Ellen. When I see what this is doing to both of us, I am convicted that it is time to get out.

The curious thing about this that I do not understand, is that this decision comes on us in the midst of what I feel has been our best year as far as outward response in the Church is concerned. And yet perhaps that is the very point that has discouraged us...that in spite of this outward show of seeming interest in the Church, the same people keep right on being the same unchanged self. They are pious on the surface, but stubborn in their hearts. That wears one down, when one can't get away from it!

Still another point of futility is that Hydaburg is a dying village. Unless something dramatic happens in the fishing industry, I would predict that within ten years Hydaburg will be another Kasaan! We have seen a rapid decline in the three years that we have been here....with the greatest rate of decline in the past year. Though I am not one to count success in terms of numbers, there is a hopelessness in outlook here that blights ones spirit.

Perhaps a selfish point of concern is that we are anxious to continue our family. But we both agree that there should be no more babies while marooned in Hydaburg.

All of this added together (plus many other little items that must be read between the lines) brings us to this decision. When we have reached the frame of mind that we have toward these people and this Village, it is better for both them and us, that we get out.

Believe me, when I say that there is no trouble....or at least not that I know of. I repeat that outwardly the Church is the strongest now that we have know since coming here. Perhaps Mayreld's reports will bear that out.

Now what of tomorrow? We have both enjoyed Alaska and the Alaska fellowship among Church workers. If there should be in the next few months an opening elsewhere in Alaska where you feel that we might fit, we would give it every consideration. We would be particularly interested in the possibilities of the Interior. The one main requirement in our mind is that it should not be as marooned as Hydaburg, with at least a highway accessable.

If necessary, we would stay in Hydaburg until late Fall. But we will not spend another Winter here. If there is nothing else open in Alaska, we will look to the Southern States.

Thank you for your helpfulness and consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Paul

Paul A. Moyer

February 8, 1960

The Rev. Paul A. Moyer
Hydaburg
Alaska

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your very frank letter of January 28 presenting your situation there. We recognize immediately the circumstances of discouragement in a declining population, a variable response from many of your people and bad weather conditions which are not cheerful at the best. Also, we can understand the great adjustment which was necessary for Mary Ellen in coming from the excitement and activity of college to Hydaburg and the lack of opportunity for fellowship among people with the same interests and activities which she would desire. Both of yourneed some fellowship and I have been negligent in not insisting that you come over to Ketchikan periodically or to the visit with one of the other of our missionary families for this with the transportation costs provided by the Board. Such a trip would relieve some of the isolation where you are. Even now if you can make arrangementswith Mosers to do this for a few days, we will be responsible for the costs of transportation.

We are greatful for your willingness to continue service in Alaska and are interested in your inquiry concerning an opening in the Interior. We are working confidentially with Bert Rutan of Palmer who plans to leave there in May. In writing about possible replacements from those who are already in Alaska, Bert has raised the question about the Moyers. He has not yet told his people he expects to withdraw permanently, but must do that in the near future. I shall write him and tell him that you would be interested in a move up to the Interior in case the church would invite you to come. You will have to leave this in confidence until further developments on the local field. Let us assure you that we will look out for your welfare in our service in the future.

Best wishes to all of you. Feel free to write about any of your problems or also to consult with Bill Pritchard about them.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:bh

MAR 23 1960

Hydaburg, Alaska
March 16, 1960

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
475 Riverside Drive
New York 27, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

For some time now I have been making mental notes of items that I should share with you in summary and evaluation of the Hydaburg picture. Here are some thoughts at random that may be of some help in future consideration.

First, a note about the trend as we have seen it: It is my guess that if the Salmon runs continue to decline in the next ten years at a similar rate as the past ten years, there will be a very small population left in Hydaburg at the end of a ten year period. For aside from government welfare, it is my guess that the Salmon industry has supported 80 to 90 percent of the local economy. It seems that this past Summer brought the final disappointment in this matter, when, in spite of fish traps being discontinued, there was still no sign of come-back in the Salmon run. Some few still remain hopeful that some miracle will happen. But even the Fish and Wildlife Service with its scientific investigations seems confused as to where the trouble lies.

Thus with such a high percentage of their economy gone, there is nothing here for the people to live on, unless they become almost complete charges of the State. And many are willing to accept that; but it is a dreary outlook.

Among those who have any gumption today, the general trend of conversation is: "Where shall we go?" One of the family problems here is that children when they reach 9th grade, must go out to High School. This is too young for children to be on their own. Many of the families, who care, are realizing that. Several of our most progressive families have said that when their grade school children reach high school age, they are getting out. For a couple of our most dependable families, that step is coming in the next couple of years.

And so the outlook here seems to be one of continual decline. I believe that one source of my personal disatisfaction here has been the light work load. It has been great to learn a slower pace than the exagerated rushing of our Eastern cities. But at the same time one needs a continual challenge to keep his keenest edge sharp.

Now in your last letter you suggested the possibility of linking Hydaburg to Hollis as one field. I feel that there is a definite possibility here of making this a much more challenging field than it is now, by such a tie. I felt a bit left out when Hollis was dropped from my agenda last year. Such a ties would give personnel here a bit of changing scenery, too, which is a very necessary item of concern out here.

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If in such a tie, a man were to spend extensive time in Hollis, some thought should be given to his wife. For the special problem in these isolated communities is companionship for the wife! Formany wives it would be a hard thing to be left in Hydaburg alone for a week or two out of each month. Of course this would depend upon the particular personality, plus the family situation. It should be kept in mind that white people are accepted in the Native Villages....but with a reserve that keeps them at arms length. This makes good breeding ground forloneliness!

Paul Moser, in writing about the general picture here, had mentioned the fact that some little thought had been given to having a Woman worker in Hydaburg, if this were to remain a one point charge. It seems to me that this is completely out of the question. My wife threw up her hands at this suggestion. And I agree with her. The men here are skeptical enough about this business of religion. And to put a woman here alone might add to the impression that religion is a woman's business. In addition there is the factor of the physical upkeep of the manse and Church property. In my time here this has been no small item. I have felt fortunate many times in having a farm background, where one quickly learns to be 'jack-of-all-trades.' (This ought to be one of the abilities required in an appointment to Hydaburg!)

Still another thought that has come recently is that certain funds ought to be made available for Village personnel to get out at least a couple of times through the Winter months, at least to a neighboring metropolis of somesort. And such a fund ought to be so established that it could be used for nothing else but travel. If it were merely added to a man's salary, there would be the temptation to absorb it in other expenses. I feel that this is a very necessary item for the Village picture.

These are just a few thoughts that have come along the way, that may help you to evaluate the picture here.

We will be most happy to have you visit Hydaburg in the week before Easter. We will look forward to your coming.

Sincerely yours,

Paul

Paul A. Moyer

cc: Bill Pritchard

P.S. The check for transportation to Ketchikan has been received. Many thanks!